

PREVENTION AND RESPONSE BRANCH WAR ISSUES FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2014

THIS WEEK – NOVEMBER 24TH – 28TH, 2014

USOR PRP GROUP, PASADENA, TX: The PRP Group continues removal of the drums and totes and is expected to be complete with this task by Thanksgiving. In the works, the PRP Group is making plans to remove the contents from the AST's by January, the remaining approximate two dozen roll-off containers (contents) by February, and the process equipment at the USOR property by March 2015. Upon completion of these tasks, the PRP Group doing stabilization will only have the site containments at the two properties left to address under the stabilization AOC. **(Crossland, 2270)**

LAST WEEK – NOVEMBER 17TH – 21ST, 2014

EBOLA, DALLAS, TX: Participated in review of EPA draft documents regarding Ebola strategy, decontamination line, and monitoring for workers. A national conference call was held November 18th to discuss the Region 2 Ebola exercise and modifications to the draft plans. **(Crossland, x2721)**

DUPONT CHEMICAL PLANT IN LA PORTE, TX: On 15 November 2014, the DuPont Chemical plant in La Porte had a release of Methyl Mercaptan due to a valve failure. The release resulted in 4 fatalities, 1 injury and a shelter in place for the facility. Principal products manufactured at the DuPont LaPorte location include: PTMEG intermediates; Elvanol® polyvinyl alcohol resins; crop protection; and fluorochemicals. Methyl mercaptan is used in two insecticides that are manufactured at the facility. There were no offsite impacts or evacuations. An OSC and START were mobilized to the site and a unified command was set up consisting of EPA, OSHA, TCEQ, Channel Industries Mutual Aid (CIMA), Houston Hazmat, Invista and DuPont. Air monitoring was conducted within the facility and offsite by EPA START Contractors, Harris County Pollution Control Services (HCPCS), CIMA and DuPont personnel. Air monitoring readings were all non-detect for methyl mercaptan except within the incident building. The cause of the failure is unknown at this time. The Chemical Safety Board (CSB) is onsite investigating the incident. The EPA OSC will remain onsite until air monitoring and sampling within the unit show safe levels for entry by facility personnel. **(Crossland, x2721)**

EXPLO SYSTEMS, INC., MINDEN, LA: On November 13th, EPA, LDEQ, LMD, and LSP participated in a meeting with local and state officials following by a town hall meeting at the Minden Civic Center. Operations: General Dynamics-ATK (GD-ATK) continued installation of the crushing equipment in S-Line bldg. 1617 to process extracted aluminum (EA) into briquettes for recycling. Modifications are being made to the area of bldg. 1617 by GD to get approval from the Fire Marshal to begin operations; a meeting occurred on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 with the Fire Marshal and Crushing operations manager. Hercules continued processing NC drums from ECM 2361. One shipment of NC was made on November 12, of a total 25,071 lbs/88 drums. **(Crossland, 2270)**

CES ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES/HOUSTON: Three vacuum box transfers were completed. The North Poned area contaminated storm water was removed to sanitary sewer but additional rain may require additional discharges going forward. Off-site disposal of FT1002 materials to Ecoserve is complete. The Trustee's contractor removed a ceramic waste pile for off-site disposal. Additional off-site disposal is set up for next week. In addition, the Asphalt/Concrete areas will begin to be cleaned of contaminated materials/sediment. **(Crossland, 2270)**

GRANTS MINERAL BELT REMOVALS, MCKINLEY COUNTY, NM - CROSSROADS RADIOLOGICAL, NEAR SAN MATEO, NM: The EPA contractors continue excavation at the residential properties on Site. All crews will break for the Thanksgiving holiday starting November 24, 2014. There has been no press coverage and community interest has been isolated to the residents associated with the Site. **(Crossland, 2270)**

BORDER 2012: TCEQ requested the OSC attend and present at the US-MX Gulf Task Force meeting on Nov 20th. The SEMARNAT Delegado for the state of Tamaulipas attended. EPA R6 is coordinating with TCEQ and BECC to plan for FY14/15 activities. BECC plans to notify various US Sister City Emergency response officials of the opportunity to apply for funding next week. The border OSC is working with ATSDR and BECC to potentially provide mercury and mercury education to border cities. **(Crossland, 2270)**